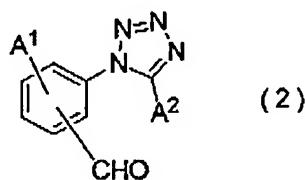


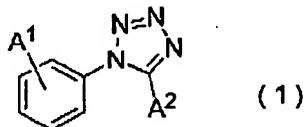
IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (original) A process for producing an alkoxy-(tetrazol-1-yl)benzaldehyde compound represented by Formula (2):



wherein A¹ is an alkoxy group, and A² is a hydrogen atom, alkyl group or fluorine-substituted alkyl group,

the process comprising reacting a 1-(alkoxyphenyl)-1*H*-tetrazole compound represented by Formula (1):



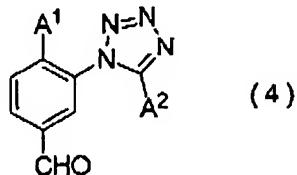
wherein A¹ and A² are as defined above, with hexamethylenetetramine in a sulfonic acid solvent, followed by hydrolysis.

2. (original) The process according to claim 1, wherein the sulfonic acid solvent is a mixed solvent of methanesulfonic acid and trifluoromethanesulfonic acid.

3. (original) The process according to claim 1, wherein hexamethylenetetramine is used in an amount of 1.0 to 3.0 mol per mol of the 1-(alkoxyphenyl)-1*H*-tetrazole compound.

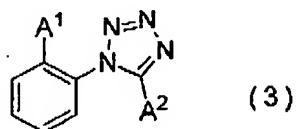
4. (original) The process according to claim 1, wherein A¹ is a methoxy group, and A² is a hydrogen atom, methyl group, ethyl group or trifluoromethyl group.

5. (original) A process for producing a 4-alkoxy-3-(tetrazol-1-yl)benzaldehyde compound represented by Formula (4):



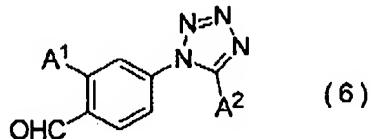
wherein A¹ is an alkoxy group, and A² is a hydrogen atom, alkyl group or fluorine-substituted alkyl group,

the process comprising reacting a 1-(2-alkoxyphenyl)-1*H*-tetrazole compound represented by Formula (3) :



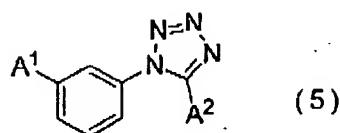
wherein A¹ and A² are as defined above, with hexamethylenetetramine in a sulfonic acid solvent, followed by hydrolysis.

6. (original) A process for producing a 2-alkoxy-4-(tetrazol-1-yl)benzaldehyde compound represented by Formula (6) :



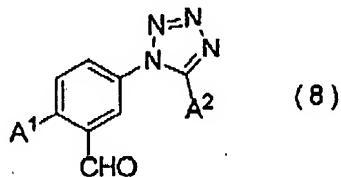
wherein A¹ is an alkoxy group, and A² is a hydrogen atom, alkyl group or fluorine-substituted alkyl group,

the process comprising reacting a 1-(3-alkoxyphenyl)-1*H*-tetrazole compound represented by Formula (5):



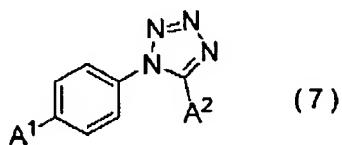
wherein A¹ and A² are as defined above, with hexamethylenetetramine in a sulfonic acid solvent, followed by hydrolysis.

7. (original) A process for producing a 2-alkoxy-5-(tetrazol-1-yl)benzaldehyde compound represented by Formula (8):



wherein A¹ is an alkoxy group, and A² is a hydrogen atom, alkyl group or fluorine-substituted alkyl group,

the process comprising reacting a 1-(4-alkoxyphenyl)-1*H*-tetrazole compound represented by Formula (7) :



wherein A¹ and A² are as defined above, with hexamethylenetetramine in a sulfonic acid solvent, followed by hydrolysis.

8 - 11. (canceled)